

Message Text

SECRET

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42

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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R 061722Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9897

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

S E C R E T BONN 07330

EXDIS

DEPT PASS TO SECDEF, USNMR SHAPE & CINCEUR VAIHINGEN

GENEVA FOR US DEL REVCON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, MBFR, GW

SUBJECT: MBFR - INFORMAL FRG COMMENTS ON US VIEWS
PAPER

1. MBFR DEPARTMENT HEAD RUTH INVITED EMBOFF TO FONOFF ON MAY 6 TO ADVISE THAT THE FRG INTENDS TO PROVIDE TODAY INFORMAL COMMENTS TO THE DEPARTMENT ON THE US PAPER VIA THE FRG EMBASSY. RUTH EMPHASIZED THAT THESE WORKING-LEVEL COMMENTS HAVE NOT REPEAT NOT BEEN CLEARED BY THE MINISTERIAL LEVEL OF THE GOVERNMENT. NEVERTHELESS, RUTH FELT IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR THE USG TO RECEIVE THE FRG COMMENTS.

2. THE PAPER TO BE PASSED TO THE DEPARTMENT IS RELATIVELY SHORT AND OUTLINES BROAD THEMES NOT NECESSARILY RELATED TO THE US VIEWS PAPER. RUTH SAID THAT ISSUES PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED IN WASHINGTON TRILATERALS -- SUCH AS THE FRG PREFERENCE FOR LIMITING ARMAMENTS VIA

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PERSONNEL REDUCTIONS -- ARE MENTIONED AGAIN. ALSO, THE

FRG PAPER INCLUDES "OPEN QUESTIONS" INVOLVING SUCH THINGS AS THE PRICE TO BE OBTAINED FOR TABLING OPTION III. FOR EXAMPLE, RUTH CURRENTLY LEANS TOWARDS TRYING TO DEVELOP A MORE CONCRETE FORMULA REGARDING EASTERN COMMITMENT TO THE COMMON CEILING.

3. A SPECIAL PROBLEM MENTIONED BY RUTH CONCERNS FINDING A SUITABLE FORUM FOR HANDLING THE SENSITIVE MILITARY ASPECTS OF OPTION III. RUTH DOES NOT HAVE ANYTHING SPECIAL IN MIND AT THIS TIME. HOWEVER, HE WONDERED WHETHER A REINFORCED SPC WOULD LEND ITSELF TO THIS TYPE OF DISCUSSION AND WHETHER MILITARY COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES WOULD BE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE COORDINATED MILITARY ADVICE. RUTH MENTIONED IN PASSING THAT THE BRITISH PREFER TO USE THE MBFR WG AS A FORUM, BUT THE FRG HAS NO STRONG FEELINGS ABOUT THIS.

4. A SEPARATE ITEM DISCUSSED BY RUTH AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE CONVERSATION WAS THE NEED FOR THE ALLIANCE TO ADDRESS THE POLITICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL EFFECTS IN EUROPE OF PROPOSED REDUCTIONS IN PERSHING'S AND F-4'S. RUTH SAID THAT WHEREAS A WARHEAD REDUCTION HAS ALREADY BEEN ANTICIPATED THROUGH SUCH THINGS AS THE BROOKINGS INSTITUTION STUDY AND PUBLIC DISCUSSION OF THE NUNN AMENDMENT, NO WORK IN PREPARING EUROPEAN PUBLIC OPINION FOR AIRCRAFT AND SURFACE-TO-SURFACE MISSILE REDUCTIONS HAS THUS FAR BEEN UNDERTAKEN.
HILLENBRAND

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED DEFENSE.

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NNN

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